

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T STATE 096514

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ASEC, NATO

SUBJECT:ATOMAL CLASSIFICATION GUIDE

REF: SECURITY MEMORANDUM 1083/74

1. REQUEST THAT MISSION NOTIFY MR. ABIDIAN THAT US
AUTHORITIES FIND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND THE UNFAVORABLE
REACTION OF SHAPE TO THE PROPOSED REVISION OF THE NATO
CLASSIFICATION GUIDE FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

2. IN ORDER TO RESOLVE THESE DIFFERENCES, IT WOULD BE MOST
HELPFUL IF SHAPE WOULD SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED
STATES TO MEET WITH US AUTHORITIES, IN ORDER TO EXPLAIN THE
RATIONALE FOR EACH OF THE COMMENTS SET FORTH IN THE SHAPE
LETTER OF MARCH 1 TRANSMITTED IN THE REFERENCE.

3. WE WOULD ALSO WANT TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WITH
THE SHAPE REPRESENTATIVE:

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A. THE DIFFERENCE IN CLASSIFICATION ASSOCIATED WITH A
NUCLEAR WEAPON VICE A NUCLEAR CAPABLE UNIT;

B. THE RATIONALE FOR CLASSIFYING THE LOCATIONS OF NUCLEAR
WEAPONS AND HOW THIS AFFECTS THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE
MILITARY UTILIZATION OF ATOMIC WEAPONS;

C. THE SPECIFIC INFORMATION IN THE DOCUMENTS MENTIONED
IN THE 1 MARCH 1974 SHAPE LETTER WHICH WOULD BE CHANGED
TO ATOMAL AS A RESULT OF THE NEW CLASSIFICATION GUIDE.

4. WE BELIEVE THAT A DISCUSSION OF THE KIND WE ARE PRO-
POSING WOULD BE MORE PRODUCTIVE APPROACH TO A RESOLUTION
OF SHAPE'S PROBLEMS RATHER THAN A CONFERENCE AS SUGGESTED
BY MR. ABIDIAN. WE ARE PREPARED TO MEET WITH A SHAPE
REPRESENTATIVE ON SHORT NOTICE.

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